

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method for providing telecommunication terminal
2 status information to people having at least one of poor visual
3 acuity and poor hearing, comprising the steps of:
4 receiving via digital transmission telecommunication
5 terminal status information for a telecommunication terminal;
6 emphasizing the received telecommunication terminal
7 status information using visual enhancement; and
8 displaying the emphasized visual telecommunication
9 terminal status information on a visual display separate from
10 the telecommunication terminal.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of
2 receiving comprises the step of transmitting the
3 telecommunication terminal status information to a computer
4 controlling the visual display by telecommunication terminal.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the
2 telecommunication terminal status information is alert
3 information for the telecommunication terminal.

1 4. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of
2 emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in a larger format than that used to display the
5 telecommunication terminal status information on the
6 telecommunication terminal.

1 5. The method of claim 2 wherein the step of
2 emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in different visual form.

1 6. The method of claim 5 wherein the different visual
2 form is one of at least: a large flashing portion of the display,
3 animation of the display, highly visible contrast ratios of the
4 display, highly visible fonts on the display, highly visible colors
5 on the display, and a large unique portion of the display.

1 7. The method of claim 6 further comprises the step
2 of generating audio information to alert a user of the
3 telecommunication terminal to the telecommunication terminal
4 status information.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of
2 receiving comprises the steps of establishing communication
3 with a telecommunication switching system controlling the
4 telecommunication terminal by a computer controlling the visual
5 display; and
6 directly accessing the telecommunication terminal
7 status information from the telecommunication switching
8 system by the computer via a path distinct from that used to
9 transmit the telecommunication terminal status information to
10 the telecommunication terminal.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of

2 emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in a larger format than that used to display the
5 telecommunication terminal status information on the
6 telecommunication terminal.

1 10. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of
2 emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in different visual form.

1 11. The method of claim 10 wherein the different
2 visual form is one of at least: a large flashing portion of the
3 display, animation of the display, highly visible contrast ratios of
4 the display, highly visible fonts on the display, highly visible
5 colors on the display, and a large unique portion of the display.

1 12. The method of claim 11 further comprises the
2 step of generating audio information to alert a user of the
3 telecommunication terminal to the telecommunication terminal
4 status information.

1 13. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of
2 establishing comprises the steps of requesting a IP socket
3 connection to another computer controlling a
4 telecommunication switching system to which the
5 telecommunication terminal is connected; and
6 connecting to the other computer via the IP socket by

7 the computer.

1 14. The method of claim 13 wherein the step of
2 accessing comprises the step of reading the telecommunication
3 terminal status information from the other computer by the
4 computer via the IP socket.

1 15. A processor-readable medium for providing
2 telecommunication terminal status information to people having
3 at least one of poor visual acuity and poor hearing, comprising
4 processor-executable instructions configured for:
5 receiving via digital transmission telecommunication
6 terminal status information for a telecommunication terminal;
7 emphasizing the received telecommunication terminal
8 status information using visual enhancement; and
9 displaying the emphasized visual telecommunication
10 terminal status information on a visual display separate from
11 the telecommunication terminal.

1 16. The processor-readable medium of claim 15
2 wherein the receiving comprises transmitting the
3 telecommunication terminal status information to a computer
4 controlling the visual display by telecommunication terminal.

1 17. The processor-readable medium of claim 15
2 wherein the telecommunication terminal status information is
3 alert information for the telecommunication terminal.

1 18. The processor-readable medium of claim 16
2 wherein the emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in a larger format than that used to display the
5 telecommunication terminal status information on the
6 telecommunication terminal.

1 19. The processor-readable medium of claim 16
2 wherein the emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in different visual form.

1 20. The processor-readable medium of claim 19
2 wherein the different visual form is one of at least: a large
3 flashing portion of the display, animation of the display, highly
4 visible contrast ratios of the display, highly visible fonts on the
5 display, highly visible colors on the display, and a large unique
6 portion of the display.

1 21. The processor-readable medium of claim 20
2 further comprises generating audio information to alert a user of
3 the telecommunication terminal to the telecommunication
4 terminal status information.

1 22. The processor-readable medium of claim 15
2 wherein the receiving comprises establishing communication
3 with a telecommunication switching system controlling the
4 telecommunication terminal by a computer controlling the visual

5 display; and
6 directly accessing the telecommunication terminal
7 status information from the telecommunication switching
8 system by the computer via a path distinct from that used to
9 transmit the telecommunication terminal status information to
10 the telecommunication terminal.

1 23. The processor-readable medium of claim 22
2 wherein the emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in a larger format than that used to display the
5 telecommunication terminal status information on the
6 telecommunication terminal.

1 24. The processor-readable medium of claim 22
2 wherein the emphasizing comprises displaying the transmitted
3 telecommunication terminal status information on the visual
4 display in different visual form.

1 25. The processor-readable medium of claim 24
2 wherein the different visual form is one of at least: a large
3 flashing portion of the display, animation of the display, highly
4 visible contrast ratios of the display, highly visible fonts on the
5 display, highly visible colors on the display, and a large unique
6 portion of the display.

1 26. The processor-readable medium of claim 25
2 further comprises generating audio information to alert a user of

3 the telecommunication terminal to the telecommunication
4 terminal status information.

1 27. The processor-readable medium of claim 22
2 wherein the establishing comprises requesting a IP socket
3 connection to another computer controlling a
4 telecommunication switching system to which the
5 telecommunication terminal is connected; and
6 connecting to the other computer via the IP socket by
7 the computer.

1 28. The processor-readable medium of claim 27
2 wherein the accessing comprises reading the
3 telecommunication terminal status information from the other
4 computer by the computer via the IP socket.

1 29. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 1.

1 30. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 2.

1 31. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 8.

1 32. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 13.

1 33. An apparatus for implementing the method of

2 claim 15.

1 34. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 16.

1 35. An apparatus for implementing the method of
2 claim 19.

1 36. An apparatus for providing telecommunication
2 terminal status information to people having at least one of poor
3 visual acuity and poor hearing, comprising :
4 means for receiving telecommunication terminal status
5 information from at least one a telecommunication terminal and
6 a telecommunication switching system; and
7 means for displaying the telecommunication terminal
8 status information on a visual display separate from the
9 telecommunication terminal in at least one of a larger format or
10 different visual form.